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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/395,254 09/13/99 MADRID

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EXAMINER

SHORTSLE, K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1734

DATE MAILED:

08/28/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/395,254

Applicant(s)

MADRID, RUBEN P.

Examiner

Kevin P. Shortsle

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Applicant has not complied with one or more conditions for receiving the benefit of an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 as follows: An application in which the benefits of an earlier application are desired must contain a specific reference to the prior application(s) in the first sentence of the specification (37 CFR 1.78).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1 – 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. It is unclear what is meant by apparatus, since it appears the wire strands become part of the finished product and the film is not reusable, i.e. a stock material used once to transfer the wire strands to the finished product. Alternatively, the entire film with the wire strands thereon becomes part of the finished product as depicted in Figs. 4 and 5 (See items 10, 12, 14 and 20). An apparatus is usable over again to perform a function on an article and does not become part of the article, so it is assumed for the purpose of examination the film being a stock material becomes part of the final product, or alternatively, the wire strands on the film become part of the finished product and the film is not reusable. It is further noted in

claim 6, the film tape carrier is assumed to be operable to advance the film from a first position to a second position by indexing holes (See spec. page 8, lines 27 – 30).

Claim 1 recites the limitation "the wirefilm" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1 – 2, 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakano et al. (USPN 4,857,671). Nakano et al. discloses a wirefilm comprising a substantially planar film and a plurality of wire strands, each wire strand coupled to the film according to the relative positions of a first component and a second component, the first end of each wire strand operable to contact a first bonding site and the second end of each wire strand operable to contact a second bonding site to electrically interconnect the first component and the second component (See Col. 1, lines 13 – 17, 27 – 30, Col. 4, lines 62 – 65, Col. 5, lines 3 – 12 and Fig. 1, items 40, 42, 125, 26, 122 – 124).

Regarding claim 2, Nakano et al. discloses the film comprises a plastic polymer (See Col. 5, line 4 and Fig. 1b, item 125).

Regarding claim 4, Nakano et al. discloses an adhesive layer operable to couple the wirefilm to the first component and the second component (See Col. 5, lines 10 – 19, 25, 59 – 66, Col. 6, lines 35 – 36 and Figs. 2 –4, items 31, 42, 124 and 127).

6. Claims 1 – 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Galli (USPN 3,724,068). Galli discloses a wirefilm comprising a substantially planar film and a plurality of wire strands, each wire strand coupled to the film according to the relative positions of a first component and a second component, the first end of each wire strand operable to contact a first bonding site and the second end of each wire strand operable to contact a second bonding site to electrically interconnect the first component and the second component (See Col. 2, line 37 – Col. 3, line 39, Col. 5, lines 6 – 13, 63 – Col. 6, line 12, Col. 7, lines 17 – 22 and Figs. 3 – 5, items 3, 10, 12, 13, 16, 37 and 62).

Regarding claim 2, Galli discloses the film comprises a plastic polymer (See Col. 2, lines 7-8).

7. Claims 1 – 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsuji (USPN 5,530,282). Tsuji discloses a wirefilm comprising a substantially planar film and a plurality of wire strands, each wire strand coupled to the film according to the relative positions of a first component and a second component, the first end of each wire strand operable to contact a first bonding site and the second end of each wire strand operable to contact a second bonding site to electrically interconnect the first

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component and the second component (See Col. 3, lines 14 - 26 and Figs. 1 - 2, items 1 - 6 and 10 - 12).

Regarding claim 2, Tsuji discloses the film comprises a plastic polymer (See Col.3, lines 20 - 25).

8. Claims 1 - 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Laakso et al. (USPN 4,650,545). Laakso et al. discloses a wirefilm comprising a substantially planar film and a plurality of wire strands, each wire strand coupled to the film according to the relative positions of a first component and a second component, the first end of each wire strand operable to contact a first bonding site and the second end of each wire strand operable to contact a second bonding site to electrically interconnect the first component and the second component (See Col. 1, line 59 - Col. 2, line 3, Col. 2, lines 31 - 37 and Figs. 1 and 4, items 10, 12, 14, 16, 20 and 24).

Regarding claim 2, Laakso et al. discloses the film comprises a plastic polymer (See Col. 1, line 59).

Regarding claim 3, Laakso et al. discloses at least a portion of each wire strand between the first end and the second end is embedded in the film (See Col. 2, lines 1 - 3).

9. Claims 1, 2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamasaki et al. (USPN 5,554,885). Yamasaki et al. discloses a wirefilm comprising a substantially planar film and a plurality of wire strands, each wire strand coupled to the film according to the relative positions of a first component and a second component,

the first end of each wire strand operable to contact a first bonding site and the second end of each wire strand operable to contact a second bonding site to electrically interconnect the first component and the second component (See Col. 5, lines 21 - 30 Figs. 1 - 3, items 10, 20, 30, 32, 32, 34 and 40).

Regarding claim 2, Yamasaki et al. discloses the film comprises a plastic polymer (See Col. 5, lines 65-66).

Regarding claim 5, Yamasaki et al. discloses each wire strand comprising a loop portion located between the first end and the second end, the loop portion spaced apart from the film (See Figs. 1, 9-12 and 14, items 10, 30, 32 and 34).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuji as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Ettre et al. (USPN 3,655,496). Tsuji discloses a planar film having a plurality of wire strands each with two ends, said wire strands electrically connect a first component and a second component via the two ends contacting bonding sites. Tsuji is silent to the wirefilm mounted on a continuous and automatic film tape carrier. One in the art would appreciate a film tape carrier used in automatic processes achieves a higher production rate than manual processes. It is


well known and conventional to provide wirefilms on film tape carriers in automatic processes as shown, for example, by Ettre et al. (See Col. 5, line 40 – Col. 6, line 8, Col. 3, lines 21 – 33 and Figs. 1-2, items 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 22, 24, 30, 36). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the wirefilm of Tsuji in the film tape carrier of Ettre et al. to continuously and automatically provide wirefilms to substrates, thus achieving higher production and efficiency than manual processes. It is noted, the film tape carrier of Ettre et al. is removable coupled to the wirefilm (See Fig. 2, items 22, 12 and 14).

Conclusion

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin P. Shortsle whose telephone number is 703-308-8193. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8-4:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard D. Crispino can be reached on 703-308-3853. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7115 for regular communications and 703-305-3599 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.


K. P. Shortsle
August 23, 2001


RICHARD CRISPINO
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